

REMARKS

This is in response to the Office Action dated October 27, 2004.

Claim 1 stands rejected under 35 U.S.C. Section 102(e) as being allegedly anticipated by Lee. This Section 102(e) rejection is respectfully traversed for at least the following reasons.

Claim 1 requires monitor device for use in monitoring access of a specific client computer [e.g., Figs. 1-2] to an unspecified number of server computers in a network [e.g., pg. 24, lines 3-6], the server computers having data files having a hyperlink structure, the specific client computer browsing the data files, and the network interconnecting the server computers and the specific client computer, the information source monitor device comprising: extracting means for extracting a referring URL (Uniform Resource Locator) from a request header for a data file, the request header outputted to the network from the specific client computer; reference information storing means for storing the thus extracted referring URL as reference information; counting means for counting the reference information to obtain a total number of times references made for each referring URL." Lee fails to disclose or suggest at least this underlined aspect of claim 1.

Fig. 7 of Lee illustrates that a counter is used for counting the number of occurrences of certain events as they relate to certain objects (e.g., col. 11, lines 11-20). Examples of things that are counted by the counter in Lee are hyperlink impressions, Web page impressions, shopping cart impressions, hyperlink click-throughs, shopping cart drops, and purchases (col. 12, lines 14-45). While Lee does disclose counting the number of impressions, shopping cart impressions, hyperlink click-throughs, shopping

cart drops, and purchases, Lee does not disclose or suggest counting the number of times a particular URL page is used as a *referrer* to refer a client to other data file(s)/site(s).

In contrast with Lee, in certain example embodiments of this invention in a case where the URL of a lower hierarchal level hyperlinked to a certain page (referring page) is accessed, a URL of the referring page (e.g., a URL of a higher hierarchal level with respect to the hyperlinked URL) is counted.

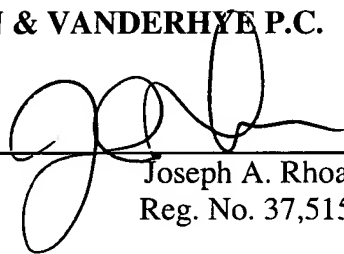
The other independent claims define over Lee in a similar manner.

For at least the foregoing reasons, it is respectfully requested that all rejections be withdrawn. All claims are in condition for allowance. If any minor matter remains to be resolved, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned with regard to the same.

Respectfully submitted,

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